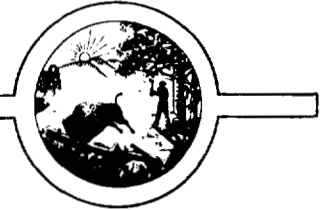


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Indiana Department of Education



Division of School Traffic Safety and Emergency Planning
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December 2, 2002

Docket Management
Room PL-401
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Docket No. NHTSA - 2002-12065-31

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
PROCESSED
02 DEC -3 PM 12:27

I am writing in support of the Interim Final Rule to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 213, Child Restraint Systems. The Interim Rule allows the use of vests on school bus bench seats. Anecdotal data in Indiana suggests that many school corporations and pre-school transportation providers use a vest in a school bus when transporting special needs and preschool age children. Vest usage became widespread in the early 1990's as a means to safely transport these children.

The regulatory language in the Interim Final Rule is satisfactory and the agency is urged to promptly make the Interim Rule a Final Rule at its' earliest possible convenience.

The opportunity to comment on this rulemaking action is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Pete Baxter, Director
Division of School Traffic Safety
and Emergency Planning